

## Grades 3-5 Writing Rubric

Component	4	3	2	1
<b>Ideas/Content</b>  <i>The heart of the writing piece</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Topic well defined and manageable <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas/information go beyond the obvious and predictable <input type="checkbox"/> Details are relevant and accurate <input type="checkbox"/> Details show connections and insight	<input type="checkbox"/> Topic defined but may be broad <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas/information generally clear <input type="checkbox"/> Details support topic and generally remains focused throughout the piece <input type="checkbox"/> Details make some connections	<input type="checkbox"/> Topic beginning to be defined <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas/information scattered and confusing <input type="checkbox"/> Details vague, repetitive or inaccurate <input type="checkbox"/> Details may be disconnected	<input type="checkbox"/> Searching for a topic <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas/information limited or missing <input type="checkbox"/> Few meaningful details <input type="checkbox"/> Details are disconnected
<b>Organization</b>  <i>The structure and framework of writing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dynamic/inviting lead and conclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Sequencing and pacing enhance the writing <input type="checkbox"/> Thoughtful and varied transitions <input type="checkbox"/> Seamless organization that compels the reader to continue	<input type="checkbox"/> Solid lead and conclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Maintains focus with effective sequencing and pacing <input type="checkbox"/> Logical or predictable transitions <input type="checkbox"/> Effective organization (beginning/middle/end or introduction/body/conclusion) that enhances the readability	<input type="checkbox"/> Lead or conclusion ineffective or missing <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to maintain a focus but sequencing and pacing may be confusing <input type="checkbox"/> Common or confusing transitions <input type="checkbox"/> Organization (or lack of) detracts from the content	<input type="checkbox"/> Lead and conclusion missing <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks focus, sequencing and pacing not present <input type="checkbox"/> No transitions <input type="checkbox"/> Topic hard to follow/understand due to lack of organization
<b>Voice</b>  <i>The way the writer brings the topic to life and captures the reader</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels a strong interaction with the writer <input type="checkbox"/> Voice is compelling and engaging; takes “risks” <input type="checkbox"/> Clear understanding of purpose and audience	<input type="checkbox"/> Reader/writer connection present but not strong <input type="checkbox"/> Voice present but “safe” <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates understanding of purpose and audience	<input type="checkbox"/> May attempt to engage the reader <input type="checkbox"/> Voice is flat and monotone <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent understanding of audience or purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> Lacks connection between reader and writer <input type="checkbox"/> Voice is unclear <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks understanding of audience or purpose

**East Aurora UFSD**

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<b>Word Choice</b>  <i>The specific vocabulary the writer uses to convey meaning</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Powerful and engaging words <input type="checkbox"/> Artful use of figurative language (paints a picture) <input type="checkbox"/> Wording accurate/specific/precise	<input type="checkbox"/> Words enhance the meaning <input type="checkbox"/> Some use of descriptive and/or figurative language <input type="checkbox"/> Moments of “sparkle” in use of wording	<input type="checkbox"/> Words convey general meaning <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent or ineffective use of descriptive language; repetitive use of words <input type="checkbox"/> Language is functional, no “spice”	<input type="checkbox"/> Words do not convey meaning <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks descriptive language, limited vocabulary <input type="checkbox"/> Uses vague and/or simplistic language
<b>Sentence Fluency</b>  <i>The way the words and phrases flow throughout the text</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Overall sentence structure enhances meaning <input type="checkbox"/> Invites expressive reading <input type="checkbox"/> Easy flow and rhythm	<input type="checkbox"/> Varied sentence structure and beginnings <input type="checkbox"/> Can be read aloud easily <input type="checkbox"/> Sentences more mechanical than fluid	<input type="checkbox"/> Too many sentences begin the same way <input type="checkbox"/> Difficult to read aloud <input type="checkbox"/> Some phrases flow, but overall piece is choppy	<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete or simple sentences <input type="checkbox"/> Difficult to read aloud without assistance from writer <input type="checkbox"/> No “sentence sense”
<b>Grammar/Mechanics</b>  <i>The mechanical correctness of the piece</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Spelling correct even on more difficult words <input type="checkbox"/> Accurate punctuation and capitalization <input type="checkbox"/> Grammar and usage are correct <input type="checkbox"/> Correct paragraphing format used <input type="checkbox"/> Writing essentially correct – minor errors when attempting higher level skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Spelling generally correct <input type="checkbox"/> Punctuation and capitalization generally correct <input type="checkbox"/> Grammar and usage are generally correct <input type="checkbox"/> Generally correct paragraphing format used <input type="checkbox"/> Writing generally correct – little editing needed	<input type="checkbox"/> Spelling phonetic, many errors are present <input type="checkbox"/> Many errors in punctuation and capitalization <input type="checkbox"/> Grammar and usage errors slow down the reader <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphing irregular <input type="checkbox"/> Writing contains many errors –some editing needed	<input type="checkbox"/> Numerous spelling errors makes writing difficult to read <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect/missing capitalization and punctuation <input type="checkbox"/> Numerous grammar and usage errors effect meaning <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphing missing or irrelevant <input type="checkbox"/> Writing errors make

				reading difficult – extensive editing needed
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